

RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Municipal Police Training Academy

Community College of Rhode Island — Flanagan Campus

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Colonel Brendan P. Doherty Chief Anthony J. Silva

Commissioner, Department of Public Safety Executive Director

Superintendent, Rhode Island State Police Municipal Police Training Academy

Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training

Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2009

I. Call to order

Colonel Stephen M. McCartney called to order the regular meeting of the Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training (POST) at 10:06 a.m. on May 21, 2009 in RIMPA-Lincoln.

II. Roll call

Colonel McCartney took a roll call. The following person was absent: Lieutenant Ernest Quarry, RISP. The following persons were present: Stephen M. McCartney, Chief George L. Kelley, III, Chief Anthony Pesare, Mr. Robert Driscoll, Chief Anthony J. Silva, Mr. Richard B. Woolley, Esq., Captain David Ricciarelli, Colonel Richard Sullivan,

Class Training Officer Stephen Duda, and Donna Lavallee.

III. Approval of the minutes

Colonel McCartney asked for approval of the minutes from the last meeting dated February 26, 2009. Chief Pesare stated for the record that he asked to be recused from agenda item Number 6 “Request by West Warwick Police for review of psychological assessment-Officer Jonathan Caldwell” even though he was not present at the last meeting for any discussion. This is so noted in the minutes. Chief Kelley made a motion to accept the minutes; Chief Pesare seconded the motion. After no further discussion and all in favor (4-0), the minutes were accepted.

IV. Update on current 111th Session, 2009-II recruit class

Chief Silva introduced the Class Training Officer Lt. Stephen Duda, who has been assigned here for the past five weeks. Lt. Duda stated that the Recruit class is due to successfully graduate on June 26th . There are no major problems and has received good feedback from the instructional staff.

V. Updates on the following:

“Law Enforcement Highway Safety Coordinator”:

Chief Silva stated that Colonel Sullivan was officially hired on April 6, 2009 as the L.E. Highway Safety Coordinator. Colonel Sullivan has already made a positive impact on our recruits, in-service training,

etc. and has driven into this “head first”. Colonel McCartney stated he had no doubt that Colonel Sullivan would be a positive asset to the Academy. Chief Silva stated he is putting his name before the POST members for formal approval of Colonel Richard T. Sullivan to this position of L.E. Highway Safety Coordinator at the Police Academy. Chief Kelley made a motion to approve Colonel Richard T. Sullivan to the position of L.E. Highway Safety Coordinator and Chief Pesare and Mr. Driscoll seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carries.

Capt. Ricciarelli spoke of the asset that Col. Sullivan has been with our in-service training. Col. Sullivan then spoke of what his agenda has consisted of since he was hired and what his plans on for the near future. He has started with the 2008 version of “Click it or Ticket” – 100 people attended the Train-the-Trainer workshops. There is over \$100,000 put aside for “Bridging the Community—1 Traffic Stop at a Time” and training for this has been approved. These monies must be spent by December 31st.

“Staff Vacancy/Training Officers for 2009-III Class”

Chief Silva stated that due to the budget issues, we still have a staff vacancy (Glen’s position has never been filled) and it seems like there is no FTE position right now. He addressed the Police Chiefs at the last meeting for help for the next recruit class which begins in August. Colonel Moran, CFPD, has agreed to send an officer for five weeks. The program with the Class Training Officers has been working well. Chief Pesare asked if we could possibly send out the blocks of time for the next class which need to be filled. That would

make it easier for the Chiefs to see what time period we are looking at.

VI. Request by RITOA for approval of on-site review of Charlestown and Hopkinton Police Departments Emergency Services Unit and Coventry/West Warwick regional SWAT Teams.

Colonel McCartney asked if anyone had any questions regarding this. With none, he asked for a motion to approve. Mr. Driscoll made a motion to approve certification of Charlestown/Hopkinton ESU and Coventry/West Warwick SWAT teams. Chief Pesare seconded the motion. With no further discussion, motion carries.

VII. Request for approval of firearms qualifications by Wyatt Detention Facility and RI Department of Corrections.

Chief Silva stated that the RIMPA staff has reviewed the curriculum for the Wyatt Detention Center and asks the POST for approval. Chief Kelley made a motion to approve the firearms qualifications for the Wyatt Detention Facility and Mr. Driscoll seconded the motion. With no further discussion, motion carries.

VIII. Discussion on certification of RI Tactical Teams required by POST as of 6-20-09.

Chief Silva stated that the closure date for certification of RI Tactical Teams is coming due. He stated that there are about ½ dozen teams that will not pursue certification and a couple of agencies that are not insured by the Trust; therefore they don't need POST certification. There are approximately 4-6 teams who have not gotten certification

as of yet. Chief Kelley asked what if they meet the requirements prior to June 30th? How will they get POST approval? Chief Silva asked the letter be mailed here to him at the Academy. Capt. Ricciarelli stated he has spoken with The Trust and they have indicated that if a dept. is working towards certification standing, they will work with them. Colonel McCartney asked if a dept is working towards certification, can they get a continuance if the date of July 1st passes? Mr. Woolley stated we should get a level as to where they are at. Colonel McCartney stated if a department is making a legitimate effort but have legitimate stumbling blocks along the way (i.e., budgets, layoffs, etc), they should outline that in a letter and that the Chief is asking for some more time. Mr. Woolley stated that would be called an Extension. Mr. Driscoll asked if we knew for sure that the Trust would cover them during the extension period. Chief Silva stated that he had a long discussion with Paul Dutra of the Trust and he was looking at 90 days for a window of opportunity. Mr. Dutra brought up the fact that they have already had a year to work towards this certification. Chief Silva stated we are only talking about a couple of departments. Chief Pesare suggested sending a survey to departments to see how many are left that are still seeking certification. Mr. Woolley stated the issue with the Trust is with the various cities and towns. Colonel McCartney stated that the issue is whether you want a tactical team certified by the POST. The POST would like to extend as much courtesy to Chiefs who want certification but have extenuating circumstances. Chief Silva suggested sending a letter to all Chiefs telling them who has a POST

–certified SWAT team at this point then go into if any department would like to request an extension, the POST would like to extend that courtesy to them. Colonel McCartney stated that that would solve the problem by telling the Chiefs the POST will work with them without getting into any specific extension dates. Chief Pesare made a motion to have Chief Silva draft a letter to all Police Chiefs notifying them of the current POST certified SWAT teams and anyone looking for an extension. Mr. Driscoll seconded the motion. With no further discussion, motion carries 4-0.

IX. Update on Job Task Analysis and Lesson Plan revisions.

- **Requesting for funding of Lesson Plan writer**

Captain Ricciarelli stated that on May 18, 2009, the final report was delivered to the Academy, including all the learning objectives for us, Providence and RISP. This is a very detailed document, including new medical standards, and a much needed assessment as the last JTA was dated 1987. The difficult part will be the curriculum writing. When all is said and done, he anticipates the Recruit class program length will be longer.

Chief Silva stated that \$25,000 was donated from the 100 Club and \$10,000 from the Trust. The total cost of the project was \$35,000. As it stands right now, there are no lesson plans for our Recruit classes in place, which results in a huge problem as far as what's getting taught but far more importantly, are the legal ramifications. Connecticut just went through their JTA and Maine is currently doing theirs. Chief Silva stated that he will be sending LEPC a letter looking to hire a grant writer to write the lesson plans. He already has a letter

in to them asking for funding for a training officer. Chief Pesare suggested partnering with a university to do this. Chief Silva said that was definitely worth exploring but we do need someone full time for this endeavor. Chief Pesare stating that he believes RWU has full-time funded positions through their School of Education. Chief Kelley stated that the Steering Committee (Criminal Justice Steering Committee) is meeting next Friday-may have to send a request in by then.

X. Discussion of promotion of Captain David Ricciarelli to Asst. Director of Programming.

Captain Ricciarelli excused himself from the meeting. Colonel McCartney asked if this request had been made to Dept of Public Safety . Chief Silva stated that Major Bannon had spoken with Colonel Doherty regarding this issue. Chief Kelley made a motion to approve the request for promotion of Capt. David Ricciarelli to Asst. Director of Programming and Chief Pesare and Mr. Driscoll seconded the motion. All in favor, 4-0.

Under discussion, Chief Silva stated that it is about a \$6,000 difference in salary. Colonel Doherty agreed that this should be done—it's been a year since Glen Shibley retired and there has been an issue with funding. If the Colonel requests this promotion on behalf of the POST, it will get in the pile at DOA. Chief Silva asked that the POST send a letter to Colonel Doherty asking that this promotion be put in process. Colonel McCartney stated he agreed and this promotion needs to be processed, for symbolic reasons as well. This promotion should be a unanimous approval as Dave is a

very dedicated employee. He will forward the letter to Colonel Doherty with enthusiasm.

XI. Old Business – No Old Business.

XII. New Business:

Mr. Driscoll asked if we are expecting another small class in august. Colonel McCartney stated he is waiting for a COPS grant, which is monies devoted to hire police officers. Chief Silva stated that he thinks the class will be smaller than last year at this time. His opinion is that the December class will be full-may have to run two classes simultaneously in the spring. Chief Pesare stated that per Congressman Kennedy's office, 165 officers have been allocated for Rhode Island.

Chief Pesare asked that we go back to Item 6 because Dept of Corrections was omitted from the vote. Mr. Driscoll made a motion to amend Item 6 to include both firearms qualifications for the Wyatt Detention Facility and Department of Corrections. Chief Pesare seconded the motion.

XIII. Adjournment:

Chief Pesare made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Driscoll and Kelley seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Minutes submitted by: Donna M. Lavalley, Administrative Assistant